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Embroidery

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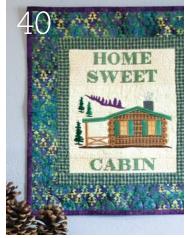
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the editor



DEAR READERS,

I love summer for so many reasons: the outdoors, swimming at every opportunity and block-buster movies. This summer, I'm most excited about the latest Disney installment: *Finding Dory*. I loved *Finding Nemo* when it first came out (who didn't?), and now that I have a gang of kiddos, I can't wait to take them into the big ocean to see what those crazy characters have been up to.

I also love commemorating such an occasion with a handmade gift. As you know, my son already has a *Good Dinosaur* quilt, complete with our exclusive Dino Tracks embroidery designs (find the kit to make yours at shopsewitall.com), and now it's time for my girls to have a *Finding Dory* quilt to remember their very first movie theater experience. Turn to page 22 for the how-tos, and learn how to make an interactive quilt that's perfect for the young'uns (and young at heart). Move the bubbles and quilt motifs to "find" Dory underneath—it's a great activity for new babies during tummy time or wee ones just learning to crawl, plus it's approved by all of *my* kids (ranging from 2 to 5 years old). I really don't think you have to be a kid to get a kick out of the design and fabric combinations. Too bad my girls will have to share one because I'll never make two in time—even by the DVD release!

For those of you, like me, with limited time to sew this summer, we've got a number of quick and easy projects to finish in time for movie madness or a last-minute birthday party. Try your hand at the in-the-hoop thumb drive holder. It's a great gift for a college-bound student or embroidery buddy. If you have a little more time, make yourself a tufted memo board to organize papers, dates and coupons. Or get picnic-ready with a bright blanket emblazoned with fun embroidered sayings.

Of course, you can always jazz up a purchased denim jacket, T-shirt or tea towels with a fun embroidery design, which takes almost no time to complete. Plus, the machine does most of the work for you. Choose a striking outline design, such as the Queen of Hearts embroidery design below, and enlarge it as much as possible for the biggest impact. Making something old new again is just that simple.

Happy summer!

Fllen



Find
this and more
exclusive embroidery
designs by Jenny Hart
of Sublime Stitching "at
shopsewitall.com. Get the
how-tos for an embroidered jacket at bit.ly/
sewdenim.

coming attractions

Halloween is coming, so be prepared with spiders, black cats, ghouls and more! Dress up the house with a FSL leaf wreath; decorate with a fun skull-themed wall hanging; party like there's no tomorrow with in-the-hoop photo props; and more! Look for the Sept/Oct issue on newsstands Aug. 16, 2016.

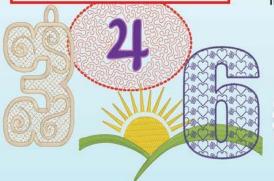




Conly Stage Stage

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Level 2

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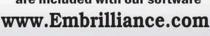
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-Brian Bailie

Made in Brian's workshop at BriTon Leap

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contributors

lisa archer



("In the Hoop: Thumb Drive Holder"—page 18) is the owner and creative director of Pickle Pie Designs. She loves the challenge of creating in-the-hoop designs

that reflect her personal style.

Home Base: Holly Springs, NC Visit: picklepiedesigns.com

pamela cox



"Q&A with Pamela Cox"—page 48) received a fashion design degree from The Boston School of Design with an emphasis on patternmaking. Purchasing

her first embroidery machine in '07 added a new dimension to her education.

Home Base: Dublin, NH

mollie johanson



("Instant Picnic" page 36) has loved creating and crafting cute things for as long as she can remember. She is the author of Stitch Love: Sweet Creatures

Bia & Small.

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gina reddin



("Hide & Seek Dory Quilt" —page 22) made many of her children's clothes when they were young, began making quilts and soon after discovered machine embroidery. With an

Interior Design degree and background as a draftsperson, she now marries her loves of computers, guilting, machine embroidery and fabric to bring a wide array of genres into her designs.

Visit: splintersandthreads.com

linda reynolds



("My Flair Lady"page 28) learned to sew as a young girl and has been sewing ever since. Professionally trained, she shares her passion for the craft

as a sewing instructor teaching garment sewing to kids, teens and adults. She is a contributing writer for several sewing magazines and websites.

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stacy schlyer



("Things Remembered"—page 44) is a self-taught seamstress and self-proclaimed fabric junkie whose goal is to reach SABLE (Stash Accumulation Beyond

Life Expectancy). She lives in Kansas with her family and blogs about her sewing adventures daily.

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milinda stephenson



("Summer Sling" page 32) writes historical romance novels about women who sew. Her latest novel, Baby Villa, was published in early 2014.

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angie steveson



("Woodsy Welcome" page 40) is the founder of Lunch Box Quilts and creates appliqué auilt patterns designed specifically

for embroidery sewing machines. She has received awards for her unique quilt designs both locally and nationally.

Visit: lunchboxquilts.com



Learn More

about the experts and designers featured in this issue at cmemag.com.



Sewing Made Easy



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tips & tricks

FEEL THE BURN

Use a fine-tip woodburning pen to carefully melt away excess heat-removable stabilizer from freestanding lace designs.

Erica F., Facebook





HANG TEN

Store fabric on a multi-rack pant hanger for added space and organization.

Frances P., email



Visit cmemag.com

for techniques and tricks to further your embroidery.



SCISSOR WIZARD

Save space by hanging a large collection of scissors from a mug tree.

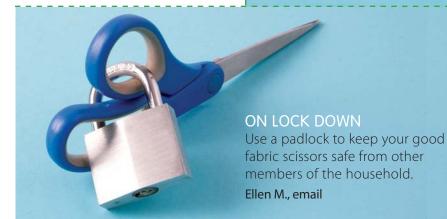
Jolene H., email



Recycle protective mesh webbing sleeves from the grocery store by using them to keep stabilizer rolls neat and tidy.

Cate S., Facebook





Send your tips and tricks

to info@cmemag.com or post them on our Facebook fan page at facebook.com/ creativemachineembroidery. If your tip is published, you'll receive a fabulous gift.



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/brothersews

must haves



- 1. Picnic in style with the Good Eats **Embroidery Collection and Instant Picnic quilt kit!** The kit features a colorful array of print fabrics, perfect for a summer day. Or use the design collection to create one-of-akind lunch bags, table linens and cute gifts. (\$9.99/collection, shopsewitall.com)
- 2. Give all your summer sewing projects a carefree feel with **Whisper batik double gauze** from Moda. Featuring simple geometric printed patterns, this scrumptious double gauze is a great pick for flowy tops, breezy beach pants, sleek slip dresses and more. (various pricing, unitednotions.com)
- 3. Keep fragile sewing tools handy with **Softie Grip Grass.** Perfect for ruler, scissor and notion storage, the grip grass stores your items safe and close at hand, with a pretty pop of color. (\$14, poppin.com)
- 4. Keep young hands busy at play with the too-cute Jointed TRex Doll by Katie Designs. The design is created in the hoop, then the sections are joined by metal brads for maximum movement and fun. (\$5/design, etsy.com/shop/katieldesigns)





ANITAS. GOODESIGN





- 5. Blend Zentangle sketching techniques with creative quilting and embroidery in The Tangled Home by Pam Damour. With a unique pattern sketching section and 15 stunning projects, you'll be on your way to creative home décor in no time. (\$30, pamdamour.com)
- 6. If summer flowers are your thing, you'll want to have the Artist Garden embroidery collection in your design library. Artful blooms, delicate fronds and sweet bouquets abound. (\$8.99/design, amazingdesigns.com)
- 7. Enjoy some embroidered fun with the Grease Monkey Garage or Princess Dreamhouse embroidery designs from Anita Goodesign. Create these in-the-hoop fold-up play sets-complete with a cute mechanic or princess-for the little ones in your life. (\$34.95, anitagoodesignonline.com)

must haves

the latest & greatest tools & designs





- 8. Kick back and relax with the **Happy** Hour embroidery design pack from Urban Threads. With 12 flavors to choose from, easily adorn a set of tea towels for the poolside bar. (\$18/ collection, urbanthreads.com)
- 9. Celebrate summer's funnest blockbuster with the **Hide & Seek Dory** Quilt Kit and design collection. (various pricing, shopsewitall.com)
- 10. Perfect for pressing hard-to-reach places during garment construction, the Sullivans Sleeve Ironing **Board** is also the perfect travel companion, featuring a unique collapsing design. (\$20, sullivansusa.net)
- 11. Give your old towels a colorful makeover with kitchen towel blanks from Dunroven House. Perfect for appliques or denser stitch designs, make a set as a housewarming gift or a potluck party favor. (\$1.98, dunrovenhouse.com)
- 12. Digitize your designs like the pros with the new Creative Drawings 8 software package. With a number of powerful new features such as fill options, increased appliqué functions and improved file format support, this software is designed to handle all the technical details of the digitizing process, allowing you ultimate creative freedom. (\$899, creative-drawings.com)









- You's Service Service Courage V.
 Honor Courage Sice Bruve The
- 13. Kick summer reading off to a strong start with the Crafty Cut Bookmarks appliqué designs from Embroidery Library. Create the whole set of 12, complete with a butterfly, owl, rose, ladybug and more, and keep your young readers inspired. (\$10.97/collection, emblibrary.com)
- **14.** Infuse your summer creations with patriotic spirit with the latest prints and kits from **designer Jim Shore. (various pricing, keepsakequilting.com)**
- **15.** Go pro with the **Pfaff Creative Sensation Pro II!** With 700 built-in stitches and 3D ribbon embellishment capabilities, this machine features all the cutting edge features you've come to love functions designed to automatically regulate thread, to position with ease, to combine shapes and fonts and more plus the largest hoop on the market, 360mmx350mm.

(\$10,999, pfaffusa.com)





Join us each issue as we celebrate our 15th anniversary with 15 tips for machine embroidery success.



If you're new to digitizing, begin with monochromatic designs to become acquainted with the process. After you've mastered monochromatic designs, begin digitizing multicolored designs. Quality designs have enough color changes to make them interesting but not so many that they're tedious to stitch. Using five shades of green instead of two or three doesn't always result in a prettier design.

Some embroidery programs are equipped with tools that automatically prepare artwork for stitching, including reducing colors and smoothing lines. If your software doesn't have these tools, use a graphics program, such as Adobe PhotoShop or PhotoShop Essentials, CorelDRAW or PaintShop Photo Pro, before importing the image into your software.

Manual digitizing gives you ultimate creative control because you manually set individual stitching areas. The cleaner the artwork, the easier and faster it is to digitize the design. As you manually digitize the design, explore creative options by adding texture fills, blending colors and adding extra details.

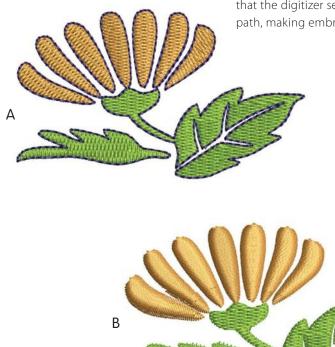
The design elements should align properly. Like puzzle pieces, the parts should work together to complete an entire picture. While the design is sometimes to blame, use proper stabilization and hooping techniques to avoid misalignment during stitchout.

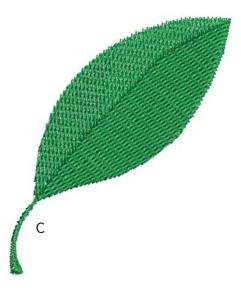
Designs shouldn't constantly jump from place to place, as trimming jump stitches is time consuming and may cause errors because the machine has to move more than necessary. Fewer jump stitches indicates that the digitizer set an efficient needle path, making embroidery time shorter.

Digitize the design in a larger scale than the finished designs to help hide small imperfections when the design is reduced and stitched. If working with the actual design size, the digitizing must be perfect, as mistakes are apparent within the stitched design.

Use an outline stitch to make the design stand out. Outlines are a design element that can make or break a design. Too bold or too dark lines can overpower the design and give it a "coloring book" appearance (A). Eliminating the outline completely softens the edges and the design elements, causing the design to lose clarity (B).

Create the illusion of depth by changing the fill stitch direction (C). Horizontal fills recede and vertical fills pop, creating shadows without changing thread colors.





Zoom in to the design to ensure all lines are connected. If filling an area, it needs to be closed so the fill is contained and won't spread to other design areas. Use the appropriate drawing tool to close gaps.

Employ an overfill technique to add definition to a design (D). Digitize an area (or the entire design) with the same overall fill, and then place a second layer of the fill in selected areas, creating subtle dimension.

Digitizing and vacuuming have a lot in common. If you want to keep your vacuum in the closet and return it there without leaving footprints, you need to have a plan of execution. You'll need to back yourself out of each room in the most logical way possible. If you

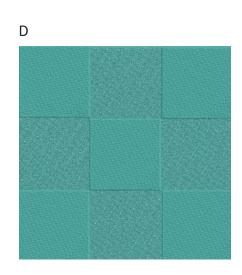
begin at the front door and are going to exit through the back door, the plan will need to be different (E).

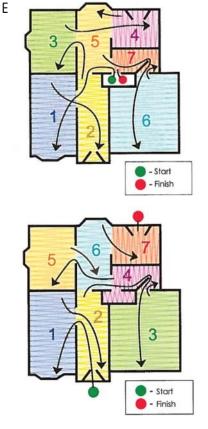
Make sure the flow of stitches in a design stay consistent. If you have a lot of fills in the design and the first fill stitches flow from the top of the design to the bottom, keep the same top-to-bottom flow for all the other fills. Multiple stitching directions may shift the fabric and throw off the registration (F).

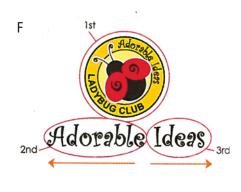
When planning a design, first work out the color order. Look at the dimension of the design. For example, when painting a landscape, you look at it dimensionally. You paint the sky first because it's the farthest away object, and then you build the painting forward one step at a time (G).

Identify the largest objects in the design. If they don't fall into dimensional order, the larger objects should be stitched first because they'll cause the most distortion.

The term used when assessing the visual quality of a design is called "registration," the alignment of the stitches on the sewn sample. Bad registration is noticed right away: fabric shows through where it shouldn't, the stitches pop outside of outlines, objects don't line up, etc. If the sewn sample looks distorted compared to the artwork, that's the sign of bad registration. If each object and stitch type in the design are perfectly aligned, that's a sign of good registration.











THUMB DRIVE HOLDER

by Zisa Ercher

Use fabric scraps to stitch a handy in-the-hoop thumb drive holder.

Download the free ITH Thumb Drive Holder from cmemag.com/freebies until Aug. 31, 2016. Find the design at shopsewitall. com after the expiration date.

WATCH IT! See Lisa create this project at cmemag. com/freebies.

THIS HANDY ZIPPERED POUCH can live on a keychain to keep track of thumb drives, lip gloss, spare change or anything else small and easily lost. These pouches are designed for beginners, but even seasoned sewists will love making these. They're fast and easy and perfect for using up fabric scraps or charm squares.

MATERIALS

- + 4x4 or larger hoop
- + Four 5" squares of cotton
- + 7" zipper with plastic teeth
- + 2" length of 3/8"-wide grosgrain ribbon
- + Tear-away stabilizer
- + Embroidery tape
- + Metal key ring

PREPARE

- Download the Thumb Drive Holder design at cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design onto the machine.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer, and then place the hoop onto the machine.

EMBROIDER

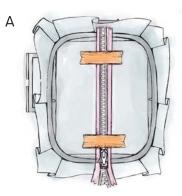
- Stitch step one to create a zipper placement line on the stabilizer.
- Place the zipper within the zipper placement line, making sure both ends of the zipper are well outside of

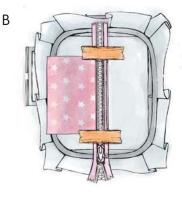
the line. The side with the zipper pull should point toward the hoop lower edge. Tape the zipper near the edge of the hoop **(A).**

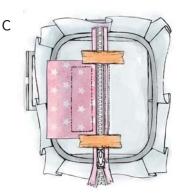
- Embroider step two to secure the zipper in place.
- Fold one fabric square in half and crease the fold well. Place the fold on the left side of the zipper against the zipper teeth; tape in place (B).
- Embroider the third step to tack the fabric in place **(C).**
- Fold a remaining fabric square in half and crease the fold well. Place the fold on the right side of the zipper against the zipper teeth. Tape in place.
- Stitch step four to tack the fabric in place.
- Unzip the zipper two-thirds of the way up the project. Tape down the open edges of the zipper tape outside of the stitches.
- Embroider the fifth step to create the ribbon placement line.



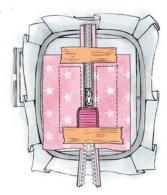
Feel free to mix and match fabrics—there's no need to use matching fabric!







D



- Fold the ribbon in half and place over the placement line with the folded edge pointing toward the center of the case. Tape in place along the raw edges of the ribbon (D).
- Place the remaining fabric pieces wrong sides together, and then center them over the project. Tape in place.
- Stitch step six to complete the case.
- Remove the project from the hoop and the stabilizer from the project. Trim closely around the seams, being careful not to clip the stitches.
- Turn the case right side out, and then add the key ring. 0

Thumb Drive: Download the ITH Thumb Drive Holder design free from cmemag.com/freebies until Aug. 31, 2016. Purchase the design at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date.

WATCH & LEARN!

Watch as Lisa walks you through six exclusive in-the-hoop projects, including the thumb drive project, at cmemag.com/freebies.

Bonus: Find Lisa's beginner machine embroidery videos, *Machine Embroidery* for the Absolute Beginner and Machine Embroidery Basics, at shopsewitall.com, brought to you by Sulky of America.









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Hide & Seek Moly Cuitt BY GINA REDDIN

Get the kit!
Find the fabric you need to make the Hide & Seek
Dory Quilt at shopsewitall.com.

Disney/Pixar

Help Dory find her way!
Create a unique interactive
quilt, with hide-and-seek
bubbles and ocean-themed
quilting designs, to
celebrate the return
of these beloved

characters.

MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to make a 50"x56"quilt.

- + Center panel (approximately 35"x43")
- + 1¼ yards of coordinating fabric (border)
- +5 yards of coordinating fabric (backing)
- + ¾ yard of solid blue fabric
- +5 fat quarters or ¼ yards of solid blue and aqua fabrics in various shades
- + Fat quarter or ¼ yard of solid orange fabric
- Quilt basting spray or temporary spray adhesive
- + Low-loft batting (approximately 60" square)
- + Stabilizer: mediumweight tear-away and/or watersoluble, water-soluble paperbacked adhesive & fusible mesh cut-away (optional)
- + Thread: all-purpose or quilting & embroidery
- + Hand sewing needle
- +3"-, 4½"- and 6"-diameter circle templates (on page 26)
- +Embroidery designs: ITH bubble appliqué design (optional) & bubbles, coral, seaweed & fish (running stitch line art in various sizes from 1" to 8"; see "Designs.")

PREPARE

- · Wash and dry the fabrics; press.
- Trim the center panel to 341/2"x421/2".
- From the border fabric, cut two 8½"x42½" strips and four 8½"x25½" strips (A).



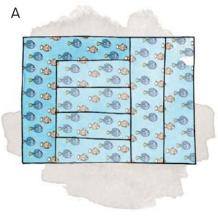
- From the solid orange fabric, cut enough 1¼"-wide strips to create two 42½" strips and two 35½" strips when pieced.
- Using the circle templates on page 26 and the solid color fabrics, cut 12 large circles, 13 medium circles and 13 small circles.
- From the mediumweight stabilizer, cut 12 large circles and 13 medium circles.
- Cut one yard from the backing fabric for the appliqué backing. From that yard and the solid blue fabric, cut 12 large circles and 13 medium circles.

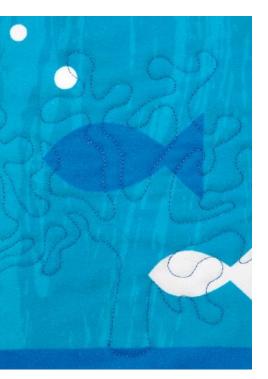
CONSTRUCT

Use 1/4" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

- Piece and then press the orange strips in half lengthwise. With raw edges aligned, stitch one strip to each panel outer edge using a 3/8" seam allowance.
- Stitch the long border strips to each center panel long side edge.

- Stitch two short border-strip ends together. Repeat to join the remaining short border strips. Stitch one strip to the center panel upper and lower edges. Set aside the guilt top.
- Cut the remaining backing fabric into two 2-yard rectangles. With right sides together, stitch the rectangles along one long edge to create the backing. Press open the seam.
- On a flat work surface, layer the batting over the backing (right side down). Place the quilt top right side







up on top of the batting. Use temporary spray adhesive or quilt basting spray to secure the layers.

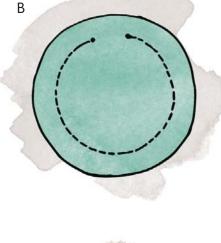
QUILT IN THE HOOP

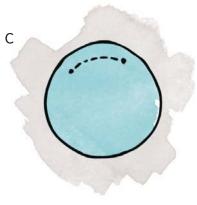
- Print as many templates of the embroidery designs as desired. Place the templates over the quilt top to audition each design placement.
- Pin-mark each design template to the quilt top along the vertical and horizontal centers.
- Thread the machine with matching embroidery thread in the needle and bobbin.
- Load the designs onto the machine. Hoop the quilt sandwich, centering the first design template in the hoop. If the quilt is too bulky for the hoop, use water-soluble paper-backed adhesive stabilizer. Hoop the stabilizer with the paper side facing up. Score the paper and tear away the paper inside the inner hoop to reveal the adhesive. Position the quilt onto the stabilizer, centering

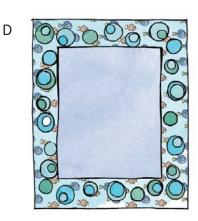
- the design template in the hoop. Remove the template, and then baste the quilt in the hoop to further secure before embroidering.
- Roll the excess quilt out of the way
 of the hoop and machine, or plan to
 hold it away from the needle during
 the stitchout.
- Embroider the design. Remove the guilt from the hoop.
- Repeat to embroider each design.

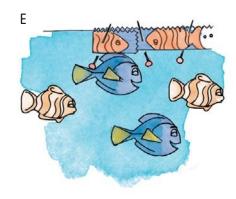
CREATE BUBBLES

- To construct a layered bubble, place a small circle on a larger circle; pin.
 Appliqué in place using a zigzag, satin or single running stitch.
- Place the appliquéd circle over one backing circle of the same size with right sides together. Cut one mediumweight stabilizer circle to size, and then position it under the backing.
- Working ½" from the outer edge, stitch the circle perimeter, leaving a 2" opening for turning (B).









- Clip the notches in the seam allowance, cutting up to but not through the stitching. Turn the circle right side out; press well. Quilt the bubble as desired. (The featured bubbles were quilted with a decorative stippling stitch.)
- Place the bubble along the quilt-top outer border. Stitch the bubble in place along the upper edge, closing the opening with the stitches (C).
- Repeat to position each bubble along the quilt-top outer border, carefully placing each one over a fish (if applicable) (D).

FINISH

- Trim the quilt layers to 50"x56".
- From the remaining backing fabric, cut six 2¼"-wide strips. Stitch the strip ends together at a 45° angle to create one long strip for the binding.
- Fold the strip in half lengthwise with right sides together; press. Fold one strip end ¼" toward the wrong side; press.
- Place the binding folded end along the quilt upper-edge center with the raw edges aligned (E). Pin the binding to the quilt perimeter, mitering the corners as you reach them.
- At the binding beginning, trim the raw end 1" beyond the beginning.
 Tuck the binding raw end inside the folded end; pin.
- Stitch the binding to the quilt, removing the pins as you sew.
- Fold the binding around the quilt perimeter, concealing the raw edges.
 Whipstitch or slipstitch the binding fold to the quilt back.

DESIGNS

Ocean-themed designs: *CME* Hide & Seek Dory Collection: shopsewitall.com

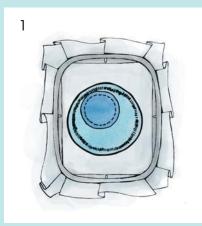
IN-THE-HOOP BUBBLES

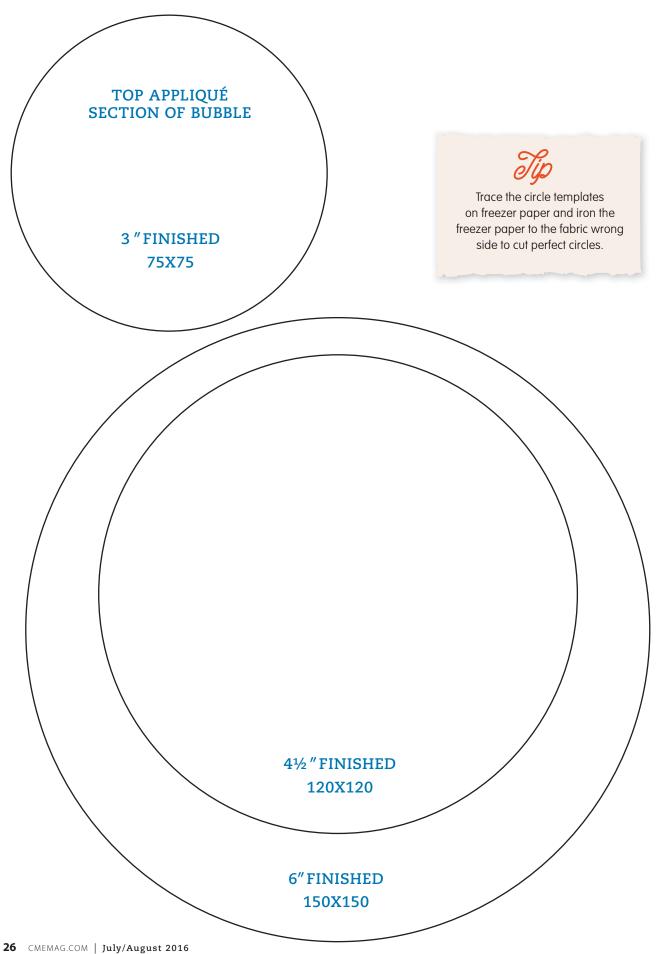
Download the Inthe-Hoop Bubble embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies.

- Load the design onto the machine.
- Hoop a layer of fusible mesh stabilizer.
- Embroider step one to stitch the placement lines.
- Place a solid fabric circle over the placement lines. Embroider step two to tack down the fabric.
- If stitching a layered bubble, embroider the next step to create placement lines. Place a small fabric circle over the placement lines, and then embroider the tacking stitches (1).
- Remove the hoop from the machine but leave the fabric and stabilizer in the hoop. Trim as close to the tacking stitches on the appliquéd circle as possible.
- Re-place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the next step to quilt the circles.
- Place the backing fabric circle right side down over the hooped fabric.



- Embroider the next step to tack down the backing fabric.
- Remove the hoop from machine and the fabric from the hoop.
- Trim the seam allowance to ¼" and notch the circle perimeter.
- Turn the circle right side out through the opening; press and stitch the bubble to the quilt top following the instructions at left.





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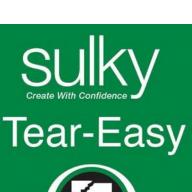
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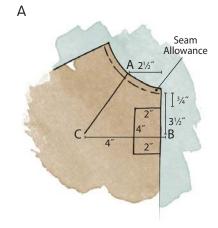
MATERIALS

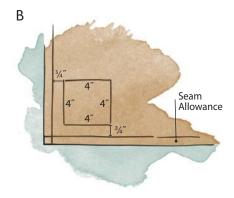
- + Sleeveless woven tank top pattern with plain neckline (such as Simplicity 2599)
- + Light- to mediumweight woven fabric plus 1/3 yard, notions & interfacing (according to pattern guidesheet)
- + Fusible tear-away stabilizer
- + Thread: all-purpose, bobbin & embroidery
- + Tracing paper & wheel
- + Removable fabric marker
- +4x4 hoop
- + Embroidery designs: heart & corner (each approximately 4"x4") (See "Designs.")

PREPARE

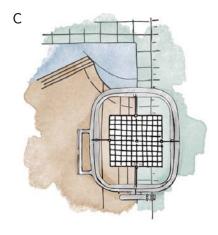
- To create the featured tank top, omit any existing ruffles or embellishments at the neckline.
- Cut out the top front and back pattern pieces in the desired size.
- Position the front pattern piece on a flat work surface. To create the heart design placement, mark the seam allowance according to the pattern guidesheet to obtain the finished neckline seamline.
- Measure ¾" below the neckline seamline along the center front; mark. Draw a 2" horizontal line perpendicular to center front. Draw a 4" vertical line perpendicular to the first-line end point. Draw a 2" horizontal line perpendicular to the second-line end point, ending at the center front.

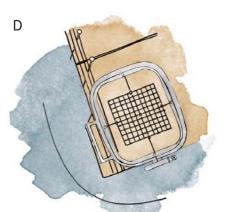
- To create the ruffle placement line, measure and mark 2½" along the neckline seamline from the center front; label as point "A." Measure and mark 3½" below the neckline seamline along the center front; label as point "B." Measure and mark 4" perpendicular from point B; label as point "C." Connect point A and C with a diagonal line (A).
- To create the corner-design placement, mark the side-seam seam allowance and hemline allowance. Draw a 4" vertical line ¾" from and parallel to the side seamline. Draw a 4" horizontal line ¾" from and parallel to the hemline. Draw a 4" horizontal and vertical line to connect the first-line end points to create a 4" square (B).
- Position the back pattern piece on a flat work surface.
- To create the ruffle placement line, measure and mark 2" along the neckline seamline from the center back; label as point "A." Measure and mark 4" below the neckline seamline along the center front; label as point "B." Measure and mark 2¾" perpendicular from point B; label as point "C." Connect point A and C with a diagonal line.
- Align the front and back pattern pieces along the shoulder seamlines; pin. Measure over the shoulder from the front-ruffle line end point to the back-ruffle line end point; record. Multiply the recorded measurement by two; record as the ruffle length.
- Measure the shoulder line from the neckline seamline to the

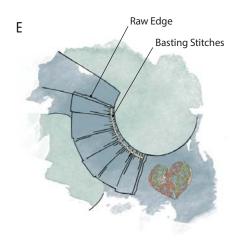














armscye seamline; record. Multiply the recorded measurement by two, and then add 3"; record as the ruffle width.

CUT

- · Fold the fabric in half lengthwise, matching the selvedge edges. Pin the top-front pattern onto the fabric, aligning the center front along the fabric foldline.
- Trace the original-neckline cutting line and seamline, using tracing paper and wheel. Position the embroidery hoop over the heartdesign placement lines. Draw a new cutting line at least 3" beyond the hoop upper edge (C).
- · Position the embroidery hoop over the corner-design placement lines. Draw a new cutting line at least 3" beyond the hoop left side and lower edge (D).
- · Cut out the top front along the pattern and new cutting lines.

- Mark the heart-design and each corner-design center point on the fabric right side. Transfer the ruffle lines onto the fabric right side. Transfer any other pattern markings according to the pattern guidesheet.
- Unfold the top front. Mark a horizontal and vertical line at the heart-design center point using a removable fabric marker. Repeat to mark the horizontal and vertical line at each corner-design center point.
- Cut out the top back according to the pattern instructions. Transfer the ruffle lines onto the fabric right side. Transfer any other pattern markings according to the pattern guidesheet.
- Cut out any remaining pattern pieces according to the pattern guidesheet.
- From the fabric, cut two rectangles according to the ruffle length and width measurements.

EMBROIDER

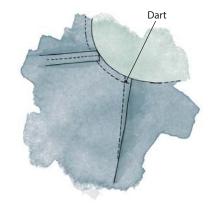
- Center a piece of fusible tearaway stabilizer right side up over the top-front wrong side at the heart placement; fuse following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Hoop the fabric and stabilizer, centering the heart horizontal and vertical lines within the hoop. Embroider the design.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Tear away the stabilizer from the design.
- Repeat to embroider each top-front corner, making sure to mirror the corner design to match the left and right corner.

CONSTRUCT

- Cut the top front along the remaining cutting lines.
- Staystitch the front neckline ½" from the edge.
- With right sides together, stitch the top front and back along each shoulder seam; press seam allowances open.
- Select a 5.0mm-long stitch length.
 Press one ruffle rectangle in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; pin. Stitch along the long raw edge.
- Pull the bobbin thread to gather the ruffle to match the ruffle-length measurement.
- Repeat to create the remaining ruffle.
- Position the top on a flat work surface with the front and back right side up. Position the ruffle over the right shoulder, aligning the gathered edge with the neckline raw

- edge and the short edges along the ruffle placement lines; pin.
- Machine baste the ruffle short ends and gathered edge using a ¼" seam allowance (E).
- Repeat to baste the remaining ruffle to the opposite shoulder.
- Position the top wrong side up on a flat work surface. Measure ¾" below the ruffle placement-line end point; mark. Draw a ¼"-wide dart along the front-ruffle placement line, centering the line within the dart and placing the dart end point at the mark. Fold along the dart centerline, aligning the dart leg lines; pin. Stitch the dart (F).
- Repeat to stitch the three remaining darts.
- Finish constructing the top following the pattern instructions.





DESIGNS

Corner design: Embroidery Library, Kitalpha Swirling Corner (E5883); emblibrary.com.

Heart design: Embroidery Library, Fancy Filigree Heart (G8917); emblibrary.com.





Stitch up a perfect cross-body bag for summer. Use an in-the-hoop embroidery design to easily create a zipper welt pocket, then customize the design to suit your style.

BY MILINDA **STEPHENSON**

Download the Summer Sling pattern and the ITH Zipper Welt Pocket embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies until Aug. 31, 2016. Find the pattern and the design after the expiration date at shopsewitall.com.



MATERIALS

- + ½ yard of medium- to heavyweight print cotton fabric
- + 26"x44" rectangle of mediumweight cotton fabric (lining)
- + Heavyweight tear-away stabilizer
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + 11" nylon handbag zipper (See "Source.")
- + Removable fabric marker
- + Two ½"x1½" rectangle rings
- +ITH zipper welt pocket embroidery design (See "Design.")

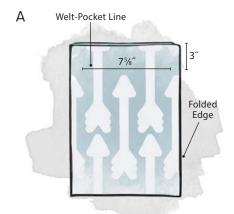
PREPARE

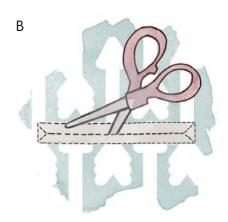
- Download and print out the Summer Sling pattern from cmemag. com/freebies.
- From the heavyweight print cotton fabric, cut one bag panel, one bag strap and two strap tabs.
- From the cotton fabric, cut two bag panels. Designate one rectangle as the bag lining and the remaining rectangle as the zipper lining.
- Fold the zipper-lining rectangle in half widthwise with right sides together and the fold along the right edge; finger-press. Using a removable fabric marker, draw a centered 75/8" horizontal line 3" below the fabric upper edge (A). Designate the line as the weltpocket line. Unfold the fabric.

EMBROIDER

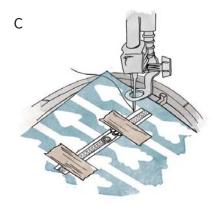
 Download the ITH zipper welt pocket design from cmemag.com/ freebies and load the design onto the machine.

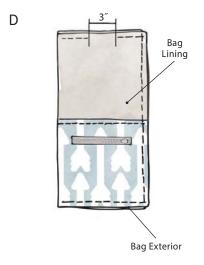
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer.
 Spray temporary adhesive over the stabilizer.
- Position the bag-exterior panel right side up on a flat work surface.
 Position the zipper-lining fabric wrong side up over the bag-exterior rectangle, aligning the edges.
- Position the two fabric layers over the stabilizer, centering the weltpocket line vertically within the hoop; finger-press to secure.
- Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the first step, creating the welt-pocket stitching lines.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Tear away the stabilizer.
- Carefully cut along the centerline and snip along the two diagonal lines at each corner, making sure to cut up to, but not through, the outer stitching line (B).
- Turn the zipper lining right side out through the opening. Press flat.
- Position the zipper right side up on a flat work surface. Position the zip-











- per-lining over the zipper with the bag exterior facing right side up and centering the welt-pocket opening over the zipper. Tape perpendicular to the zipper to secure.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer.
 Spray temporary adhesive over the stabilizer. Position the zipper lining and zipper over the stabilizer, centering the zipper vertically within the hoop; finger-press to secure.
- Reduce the machine speed as low as possible. Embroider the final step, creating the zipper stitching line (C). During embroidery, stop the machine and move the zipper pull to prevent the needle from hitting it during stitching.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Tear away the stabilizer. Treat the two fabric layers as one.

CONSTRUCT

Use 3/8" seam allowances unless otherwise noted

• With right sides together, align the bag exterior panel and bag-lining panel. Stitch one long upper edge using a ½" seam allowance. Press open the seam allowance, and then press the bag lining upward, away from the bag exterior.

- Fold the bag lining and bag exterior in half lengthwise with right sides together; press.
- Stitch the entire perimeter, leaving a 3"-long centered opening along the bag-lining lower edge for turning **(D).**
- To box the corners, flatten one bag-lining corner with right sides together, matching the side and lower seam; pin. Measure 1½" from the corner, and then draw a line across the triangle. Stitch along the drawn line. Repeat to box the remaining bag-lining corner and bag-exterior/zipper-lining corners.
- Turn the bag right side out through the opening. Hand or machine stitch the bag-lining opening closed. Push the lining into the bag exterior with wrong sides together.
- Fold the strap in half lengthwise with right sides together; press.
 Stitch the long edge. Turn the strap right side out through one short end; press flat, centering the seam along one strap side. Designate the strap side with the seamline as the strap wrong side.
- Topstitch 1/4" and 5/8" from each strap long edge.
- Fold each strap-tab long edge ³/8" toward the wrong side; press. Fold the strap tab in half widthwise with right sides together; press. Stitch the long edge. Turn the strap tab right side out through one short end; press flat. Repeat to stitch the remaining strap tab.

- Insert one strap-tab short end into one rectangle ring, aligning the short ends; pin. Center the tab over the bag lining at one side seam, extending the strap-tab folded edge ¼" above the bag upper edge; pin. Stitch a square with an X in the strap-tab short-end center to secure.
- Repeat to stitch the remaining strap tab to the opposite bag side.
- Insert one strap short end into one rectangle ring with wrong sides together and the strap right side facing out, extending the short end 5/8" from

- the ring; pin. Stitch 1/8" from the strap short-end folded edge.
- Repeat to insert the opposite strap short end into the remaining rectangle ring.

DESIGN

Download the ITH Zipper Welt Pocket design free from cmemag.com/freebies until Aug. 31, 2016. The design will be available after the expiration date at shopsewitall.com.

SOURCE

ByAnnie.com carries nylon handbag zippers: byannie.com.



LEATHER THAT LASTS

Upcycling a leather coat is a fun way to incorporate complicated design elements into a simple bag. Before you cut the pattern pieces, lay the coat out on a flat surface, and examine the pockets, seams, hem and anything else on the coat that might be incorporated into the purse. This bag also features basic tabs and hardware for a more upscale look.

Instant Make this exact quilt with the Instant Picnic Quilt Kit, which includes the fabric needed to make the quilt and the Good Eats embroidery design collection, available at shopsewitall.com. BY MOLLIE JOHANSON Sample sewn by Kate Van Fleet Grab your favorite sandwich fixings and head out for a summer picnic. With this embroidered quilt, your guests can eat up in style. 36 CMEMAG.COM | July/August 2016



MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one 70"-square quilt.

- + 1 yard each of white solid fabric and four coordinating prints (See "Sources.")
- +4 yards of backing fabric
- +4 yards of flannel or lightweight batting
- + Thread: all-purpose, embroidery & Perle cotton
- + Mediumweight cutaway mesh stabilizer
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Hand sewing needle
- + Picnic text embroidery designs (approximately 8" square; see "Designs.")

PREPARE

- Cut four 18-inch squares from the white solid fabric.
- Cut three 18-inch squares from each of the four coordinating prints.

EMBROIDER

 Download the Good Eats Sweet! embroidery design from cmemag. com/freebies and load it onto the machine.



Download the Good Eats Sweet! design from cmemag.com/freebies until

Aug. 31, 2016. Find the design, and the entire collection, after the expiration date at shopsewitall.com.

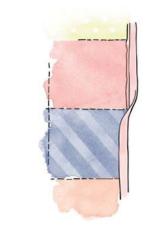
- Spray the stabilizer with temporary adhesive and place it on one white fabric square wrong side, smoothing any wrinkles.
- Hoop the fabric and the stabilizer.
- Center and then embroider the design. Leave the stabilizer in place on the fabric wrong side for added stability. Repeat to stitch the remaining white squares.

CONSTRUCT

Use ¼" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

- Stitch the squares together into a four by four grid, with the embroidered squares in the center or at the corners. Press the seams to the darker fabric side.
- Cut the backing fabric into two 2-yard pieces. Sew the two pieces together along one long edge to form a rectangle; press the seams to one side.
- Lay the pieced top on the flannel or batting and trim the batting to match the top. Repeat to trim the backing so that it's 2" larger on all four sides.
- Layer as follows: backing wrong side up, flannel or batting, pieced top right side up.
- Double fold the 2" backing border over the pieced top and pin in place, mitering the corners (A).









PERFECT PICNIC NAPKINS



Complete your perfect picnic set with matching napkins.

MATERIALS

- +Two 13" squares of white fabric
- +Thread: embroidery & all-purpose
- + Mediumweight cutaway mesh stabilizer
- + Temporary spray adhesive
- + Picnic embroidery text (approximately 21/2"x4"; see "Designs.")

CONSTRUCT

- · Load the embroidery design onto the machine.
- · Stabilize and hoop one square, and stitch the embroidery design in the center.
- · With right sides together, pin and then stitch the two squares together, leaving a small opening for turning.
- Clip the corners and turn the napkin right side out.
- Press and topstitch 1/4" from the edge, closing the opening.

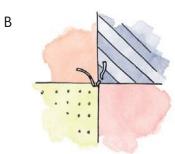
- Stitch around the quilt perimeter along the folded edge of the border.
- · With perle cotton, hand tie the layers of the quilt together at the corner of each patchwork square. Dip the needle through all of the layers and bring it back up to the top. Pull the thread through, leaving a 3" tail. Dip the needle down and back up again and then tie a triple knot on the quilt right side (B). Trim the ends. 🕖

Picnic words: CME, Good Eats collection; shopsewitall.com

SOURCES

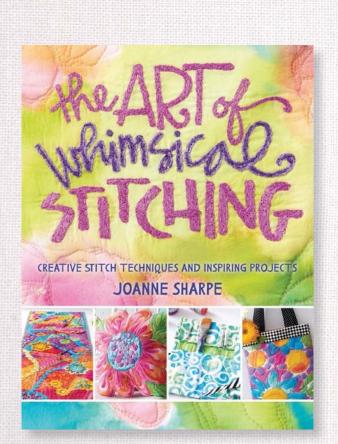
RJR Fabrics supplied the Cotton & Steel fabrics used to make the sample: rjrfarics.com.

Shop Sew it All carries the Instant Picnic quilt kit: shopsewitall.com.





PAINT, STITCH, PLAY!



\$24.99 | 144 pages | 9781632502056 InterweaveStore.com In this brand new colorful and inspirational guide, bestselling author and teacher Joanne Sharpe shares her favorite, go-to methods for creating exuberant stitch art like you've never seen before!

Follow step-by-step instructions and photos demonstrating a dozen inspiring techniques that will transform your custom fabric into playful pillows, bags, art quilts, journals, and more!







Welcome

BY ANGIE STEVESON, courtesy of Lunch Box Quilts
QUILTED BY JESSICA GAMEZ, courtesy of Jessica's Quilting Studio

Add rustic charm to your home or cabin with a quilted wall hanging.



MATERIALS

- + ¼ yard of light-colored cotton fabric (background)
- + 1/4 yard of plaid fabric (inner border)
- + 1/4 yard of cotton print (outer border)
- + ½ yard of cotton print (backing)
- + ¼ yard of cotton print (binding)
- + Coordinating fabric scraps
- + 19"x22" rectangle of cotton batting
- + Tear-away stabilizer
- + Thread: 40-wt. polyester, all-purpose & bobbin
- + Size 80/12 embroidery needle
- + Small curved appliqué scissors
- + Cabin appliqué & Home, Sweet & Cabin lettering embroidery designs (See "Designs.")

PREPARE

- From the background fabric, cut one 10"x13" rectangle for the cabin appliqué and three 5"x13" rectangles for the words Home, Sweet and Cabin.
- From the inner-border fabric, cut two 1½"x11" strips for the right and left
 - Download the Home, Sweet and Cabin lettering designs for free at lunchboxquilts.com.

- borders and two 1½"x11½" strips for the upper and lower borders.
- From the outer-border fabric, cut two 2½"x13" strips for the right and left borders and two 2½"x15½" strips for the upper and lower borders.
- From the binding fabric, cut two 11/2"x the fabric width strips.

EMBROIDER

- Load the Home, Sweet and Cabin lettering designs from lunchboxquilts.com onto the machine.
- Hoop one 5"x13" rectangle with a piece of tear-away stabilizer, centering the rectangle within the hoop.
 Place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider the Home design (A).
 Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop.
- Carefully tear away the stabilizer from the design wrong side. Press flat. Designate as block 1. Trim the block to measure 2"x9½", centering the design.
- Repeat to embroider the Sweet and Cabin lettering designs on the remaining 5"x13" rectangles. Designate the Sweet rectangle as block 2 and the Cabin rectangle as block 4.
- Load the cabin appliqué design onto the machine.
- Hoop the 10"x13" rectangle with a piece of tear-away stabilizer, centering the rectangle within the hoop.
 Place the hoop onto the machine.

- Embroider the Cabin design, following the design instructions to create the appliqué.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Carefully tear away the stabilizer from the design wrong side. Press flat. Designate as block 3. Trim the block to measure 6½"x9½", centering the design.

CONSTRUCT

Use a ¼" seam allowance and stitch right sides together unless otherwise noted.

- Stitch the block-1 lower edge to the block-2 upper edge. Press the seam allowance toward block 2.
- Stitch the block-2 lower edge to the block-3 upper edge. Press the seam allowance toward block 3.
- Stitch the block-3 lower edge to the block-4 upper edge. Press the seam allowance toward block 3.
- If needed, trim the block to measure 9½"x11", centering the designs. Designate as the quilt center.





- Stitch the right inner-border long edge to the guilt-center right edge. Press the seam allowance toward the darker fabric. Repeat to stitch the left inner border to the quilt-center left edge.
- Stitch the upper inner-border long edge to the quilt-center upper edge. Repeat to stitch the lower inner border to the quilt-center lower edge.
- Repeat to stitch the outer borders to the inner-border edges (B).
- Position the backing fabric wrong side up on a flat work surface. Layer the batting over the backing; smooth. Layer the quilt top right side up over the batting; smooth. Pin or hand baste the layers together. Quilt as desired.

Upper Outer Border **Upper Inner Border** В HOME Block 1 Block 2 Block 3 Left Outer Border Right Inner Border Left Inner Border Right Outer Border CARIN Block 4 Lower Inner Border Lower Outer Border

FINISH

- Piece together the binding strips with right sides together along the short edges to form one continuous strip. Join each strip using a 45° seam to reduce bulk; press open. Cut one strip end on the diagonal, and then fold it ½" toward the wrong side; press.
- Fold the strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; press.
- Place the binding along the wall-hanging edge with right sides together, matching the binding long raw edge and the wall-hanging raw edge.
- Begin stitching the binding 2" from the folded end and mitering each corner.
- At the binding beginning, overlap the binding end; pin, and then continue stitching the binding.
- · Wrap the binding around the wallhanging perimeter toward the wrong side; pin. Slipstitch the binding fold to the wall-hanging back. 🚱

DESIGNS

Cabin appliqué & free Home, Sweet & Cabin lettering designs; lunchboxquilts.com.

SOURCES

Amann USA provided the Isacord 40-wt. polyester thread: amannusa.com.

Bernina provided the B790 embroidery sewing machine used to make this project: berninausa.com.

Havel's Sewing provided the Snip-Eze appliqué embroidery scissors: havelssewing.com.

Island Batik provided the batik fabrics: islandbatik com

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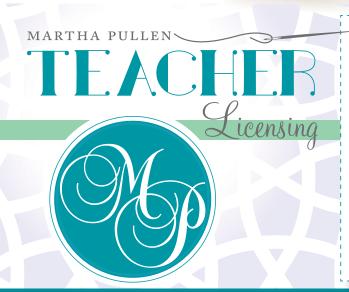
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Things Nemembered

BY STACY SCHLYER

Add rustic charm to your home with a whimsical memo board. Plus learn essential tips and tricks for proper burlap embroidery.

MATERIALS

- + Burlap (amount according to measurements), plus a 1½"x26" strip
- + High-loft batting & foam-core board (amount according to measurements)
- + Fabric scraps of your choice
- + Cut-away stabilizer
- + Embroidery thread
- + Removable fabric marker
- + Spray adhesive: permanent & temporary
- + ¾"-diameter decorative upholstery nails
- + 1¼"-diameter decorative buttons
- + Heavy-duty tape
- + Large picture frame (optional)
- + Cork & muslin (optional; amount according to measurements)
- + Embroidery designs: appliqué alphabet collection (approximately 2"x2½"; see "Designs.")

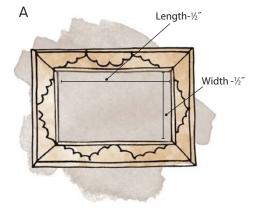
PREPARE

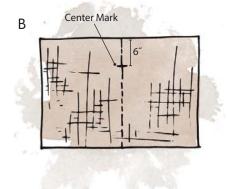
- Determine the length and width of the desired finished memo board size: record.
- If using a frame, measure the interior opening length and width. Subtract ½" from the length and width measurement; record (A).
- From the foam core board and batting, cut a piece according to the length and width measurements. Designate the batting as the inner-batting.

- Add 4" to each length and width measurement; record. From the batting and burlap, cut a rectangle according to the recorded measurements. Designate the batting as the outer-batting. Designate one burlap long edge as the upper edge.
- If using cork, cut a piece according to the length and width measurements.
 Use spray adhesive to attach the cork to one foam-core board side.

EMBROIDER

- Load the appliqué letters to spell "Memo" into the embroidery machine. Align the letters horizontally and space them as desired.
- Fold the burlap rectangle in half widthwise with right sides together to find the center. Measure 6" below the upper edge along the vertical foldline; mark using a removable fabric marker (B).
- From the stabilizer, cut a rectangle 6" larger on each edge than the hoop perimeter.
- Spray the cut-away stabilizer with temporary spray adhesive. Position the burlap right side up over the stabilizer, centering the mark over the stabilizer; smooth, and then finger-press to secure.
- Hoop the stabilizer and burlap, centering the mark within the hoop. Embroider the design, following the design instructions to create the appliqués.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Carefully cut away the excess stabilizer from the design perimeter.





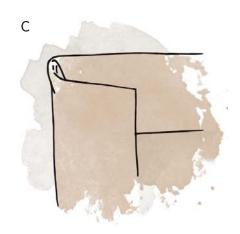






- Spray permanent adhesive onto one foam-core board side or cork, if using. Position the inner-batting rectangle over the board, aligning the perimeters. Smooth the batting, and then finger-press to secure.
- Spray permanent adhesive onto the inner-batting rectangle. Center the outer-batting rectangle over the inner-batting rectangle. Smooth the batting, and then finger-press to secure.
- Spray permanent adhesive onto the outer-batting. Center the burlap rectangle over the batting; smooth, and then finger-press to secure.
- Fold and tightly pull one burlap and batting edge toward the foam-core board wrong side; secure the edge center using tape. Repeat to secure each remaining edge, leaving the corners free.

- Fold and tightly pull one burlap and batting corner toward the foam-core board wrong side, and then overlap the remaining raw edges over the corner point; secure using heavyduty tape (C).
- Place tape over the entire burlap and batting edges to the foam core board to secure.
- Determine the desired decorative nail placements; mark using a removable fabric marker. Push the nails through the burlap toward the foam core board wrong side at the mark. Bend the nail stem over the board to secure.
- Repeat to attach the remaining decorative nails. Position a piece of tape over each nail stem to secure.
- Using fabric scissors, cut a rough scallop edge on one burlap-strip long edge.



BURLAP BASICS

Burlap is a coarse, open-weave fabric made from jute or hemp. It's most often used for coffee or potato sacks. However, home decorators have begun to embrace burlap and are using it in a variety of interior projects, including pillows, furniture covers and drapery. Burlap has become so popular that it can now be found in an array of colors, textures and prints to fit any style.

MATERIAL

When purchasing burlap, understand that not all burlap is the same. Some fabric is extremely rough and has a very open weave. Other types are substantially softer with a tighter weave. Both styles are embroidered in a similar way; however, tighter weaves create sharper designs.

DESIGN SELECTION

 Stitch-filled and appliqué embroidery designs work best on burlap fabric, especially burlap with a loose, open weave. Avoid

- running stitch and redwork embroidery because they get lost and disappear in the weave (1).
- Designs with light stitching can be used depending on the specific design. Embroider these designs multiple times to create more visible stitching (2). Teststitch the design on a burlap scrap to ensure the stitch quality.

EMBROIDERY

- Always use cut-away stabilizer. Tear-away stabilizer does not provide enough support for the fabric and design on the open-weave texture.
- If using a filled design, add a water-soluble stabilizer topper to the fabric to prevent the stitches from sinking into the weave. Before hooping, use temporary adhesive to secure the burlap to the stabilizer to prevent shifting and design distortion during stitching.



2



To prevent batting poking through loosely woven burlap, add a muslin layer or other lightweight woven fabric underneath the burlap.

- Select a 5.0mm-long stitch on the machine. Stitch ¼" from the strip straight long edge.
- Pull the bobbin thread to gather the strip to the desired fullness, rolling the strip onto itself to create a rosette shape. Once the desired look is achieved, cut away any excess strip if needed.
- Using a hand sewing needle, hand tack the rosette strip to secure. Hand stitch a button to the rosette center, and then stitch the rosette to the memo board at the desire location. Repeat to create additional rosettes.
- If using a frame, position the frame wrong side up on a flat work surface.
 Center the memo board right side down into the frame opening; secure with heavy-duty tape.

DESIGNS Appliqué letters: Wanda Appliqué Alphabet, Designs by Juju; designsbyjuju.com



Dear Pamela,

I love so many of the larger designs (360mm x 200mm) available, but my machine can only handle smaller hoops (120mm or 150mm square). How do I break up a large design into smaller stitchable segments?

Signed, Divide & Conquer EAR DIVIDE & CONQUER,
As with most questions about machine embroidery, there are usually several ways to approach the same goal. No one way is better than another, but rather the right way is the one you're most comfortable with.

Even though you have several options for which technique to employ, every option requires the use of editing software. With so many options to choose from, do a bit of homework first to ensure that the program you purchase will work with the file format necessary for your embroidery machine, performs the editing functions you're most interested in and is user friendly with available support should the need arise.

Often times, dividing a large design proves less problematic than figuring out how to stitch it all back together. Editing software plays a huge role in dividing and conquering. More sophisticated programs usually provide several options for the same task, including auto division of a design, the ability to hand select where the division will happen and



Elements within units can be broken out for smaller hoops

100mm sq hoop

120mm sq hoop

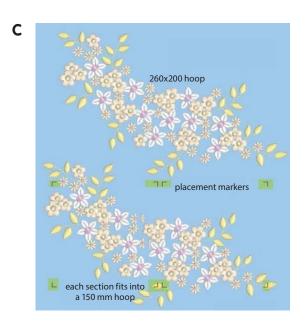
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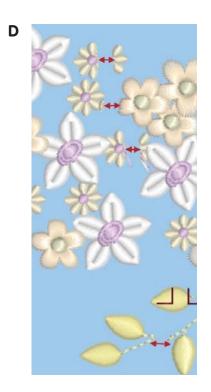
placement markers to aid in the stitching and re-grouping process. Large designs that combine individual elements, as in the example above, are the easiest to break down, and they afford a small margin of placement error when reassembling. This design was created as a large single unit (approximately 305.3mm x 146.6mm; see "Designs") (A). However, this same design can easily be divided into three separate units, all stitchable in a 150mm square hoop.

When re-grouping individual elements, keep in mind that exact placement is not possible. Although the re-grouped designs will differ slightly from the original layout, the overall concept will remain the same. Generally speaking, as long as elements are not touching, a design can easily be divided to fit smaller hoops. However, the smaller the hoop, the more hoopings will be required to reconstruct the full design **(B).** Dividing large designs where elements flow together becomes more difficult, but not insurmountable.

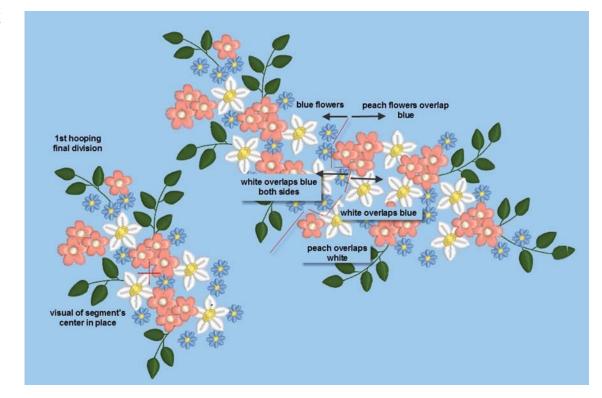
More sophisticated editing programs, such as the one used in this article (see "Sources"), can make the process of dividing large designs easier by allowing you to automatically split a design based on specific parameters such as hoop size, desired overlap and compensation. Other options may include the ability to add markers to guide realignment during stitchout **(C).**

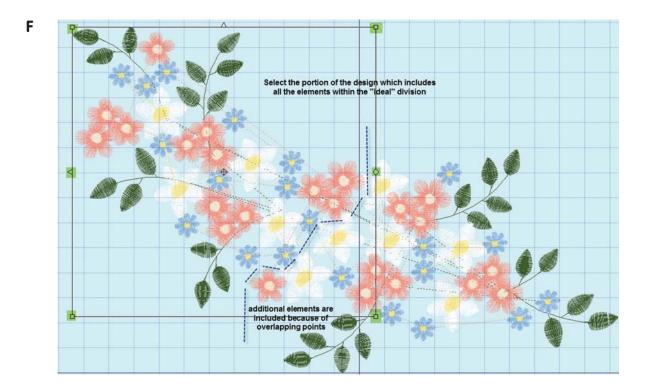
Usually the software's automatic split function takes into consideration overlaps within a design and will divide the design so segments can be stitched in any order. While having order options is a definite benefit, the computer may divide a section right through an element, as seen in the flowers and lower stem (**D**). Dividing an element in this way may make seamless joints even more challenging, although if the corner markers are matched precisely, the joining areas should flow together as in the original. In cases like this, a few strategically placed hand stitches will help mask a slight imperfection.





E

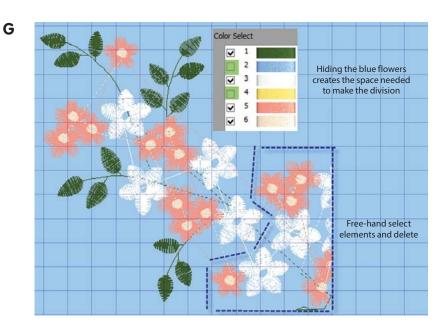


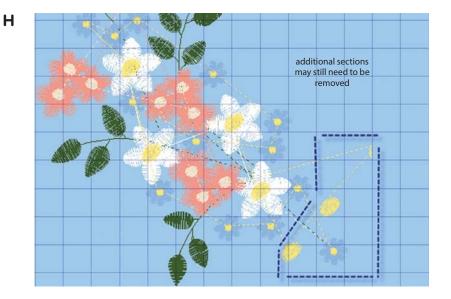


DIVIDING DESIGNS MANUALLY

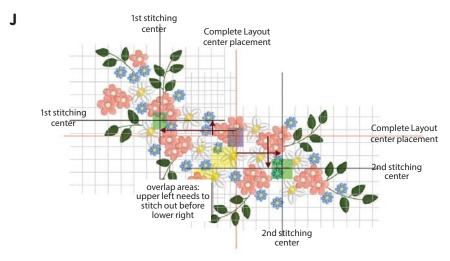
Sometimes it is preferable to make your own choice about how and where a design should be split. For those with less sophisticated editing programs, it becomes a must. To do so, look at the full design and plan the ideal divisions, starting with the largest hoop that your machine is capable of stitching. Pay attention to areas that overlap, since this will dictate what elements to include and stitch order (E). Follow the step-by-step instructions below for dividing any design to any desired hoop size.

- Freehand select the desired section, which in this case is about half the design. Selection needs to include all the elements in the ideal division, even if the separating line includes other elements within overlapping areas (F).
- Copy and paste the chosen area back into the workspace. Begin to remove unwanted elements by hiding colors of desired elements and deleting objects left behind (G). Once the colors are all brought back into the design, it may be necessary to delete additional areas within the original selection that share colors with included elements (H).
- Center the selection in the workspace. Select a line block font from the lettering tab and type a plus sign sized to 20mm. Apply to workspace and automatically center the plus sign. Change the plus sign color to one not found within the current design, and combine the two elements (the design and plus sign). This step incorporates a visual center





segment entered on screen use alignment function to center plus sign





- of the stitchable unit, which becomes useful in locating its center in relationship to the full layout center during the stitching process (I).
- Save this file under a new name, preserving the original for future projects.
- Repeat this entire process for the second half of the design, or, in the case of larger designs, each remaining segment necessary to complete the full design.

ACCURATE PLACEMENT

Editing programs make it very easy to break large designs down, but remember, accurate placement during the stitching process is critical. It's beneficial to incorporate multiple methods of checks and balances during the stitching process.

Placement functions within your machine and marking aids can all aid in correct design positioning. Most editing programs will print templates, which, as long as measurement settings have been set accurately, are also very useful (J). However, don't underestimate the importance of math. It's not as hard as you might think.

- Center the original floral design back into the workspace and change the entire design to one single dark thread color, saving this file under the name "template."
- Bring each section back into the workspace, covering the template with each matching section (K).
- Because this method allows a visual of the complete layout center and shows the relationship of individual sections, you can take measurements between the two plus signs directly off the computer by using the grid markings.

1

STITCHING MULTIPLE SECTIONS

Fabric preparation for the stitching process should include hand basting intersecting lines, serving not only to show the center of the complete layout but also the relationship of each stitching unit needed to complete it. Different thread colors will help to identify each individual center and stitching order **(L).**

Stitch the first hooping and remove the stabilizer from the areas where the two designs will fit together. With the second hooping, use the fix box as an additional check point **(M).** Notice where it will hit the neighboring elements and check on the computer that the design's outline box falls in the same area.

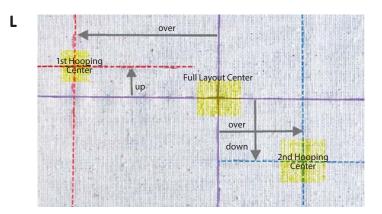
Often times, dividing a large design for smaller hoops may require thinking outside of the box. However, there's usually a way, even with limited resources. Take time to evaluate the design, keep overlapping areas in mind and use at least two methods to check placement before stitching begins.

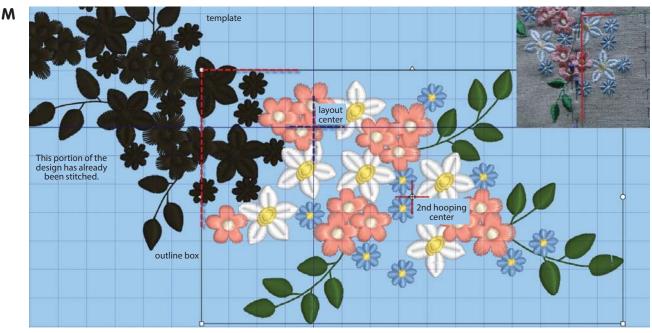
DESIGNS

Floral designs: Graceful Embroidery, Symphony of Flowers Design #8-Set 4 and Celtic Grace Florals Set 3–13; gracefulembroidery.com

SOURCES

Husqvarna Viking $6D^{\mathbb{M}}$ embroidery software was used throughout this article: husqvarnaviking.com





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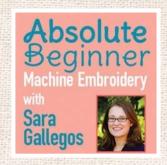


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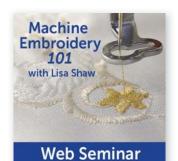
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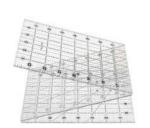








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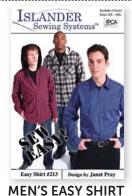
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